Friendship Heights Transportation Management District Advisory Committee December 9, 2014



Voting Members

Barbara Condos (Vice Chair) Town of Somerset

Joe Dixon GEICO

Tiffany Gee (Chair) Chevy Chase Land Company

Campbell Graeub Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights

Christopher Itteilag Somerset House Management Association

Cobey R. Kuff WP Project Developer, LLC John Mertens Friendship Heights Village

Non-voting Members

Sandra L. Brecher MCDOT/Transit Services Division-Commuter Services

TMD Staff

Jim Carlson MCDOT/Transit Services Division-Commuter Services
Nakengi Byrd MCDOT/Transit Services Division-Commuter Services

Absent

James Calderwood Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers

Chief John Fitzgerald Chevy Chase Village Police

Matthew Folden M-NCPPC

Kenneth Hartman B-CC Services Center

Guests

Tim BalinskasWells+AssociatesMoira BindnerWells+AssociatesBob JoinerThe Agenda News

Abbreviations:

CID=Commuter Information Day

DDOT=District Dept. of Transportation

TMP=Traffic Mitigation Plan

Item 1, 2 &3-Introductions/Minutes/Chair Comments: Chair Tiffany Gee called the meeting to order. Members and guests introduced themselves. Minutes were reviewed for edits and tabled for lack of quorum.

Item 4-Parking Meter Issue: Campbell Graeub inquired about the status of proposed parking rates on Friendship Boulevard since the rates were not mentioned in the recommendation letter to install parking meters in Friendship Heights. He felt that a \$2/hour rate on Friendship might be

excessive due to the walking distance from retail. It was explained that parking rates are based on rates for non-parking lot district (PLD) areas - any changes to the existing rates outside PLD would require Council action. **Jim Carlson** will follow up the request.

Item 5-FY16 Budget Priorities: The Committee discussed items for the FY16 operating budget priorities and reviewed items from the FY15 list. **Mr. Carlson** reported that reported inadequate lighting along Willard Avenue is causing a potential pedestrian hazard. He will follow up.

John Mertens provided a list of suggestions to improve traffic, air quality and safety in the TMD:

- Better traffic enforcement for vehicle violations and pedestrian infractions such as jaywalking
- Improved signal timing
- Peak period vehicle tolls
- Repainting road lane markings
- Increase Metrorail to eight cars
- Support Uber and transition taxis to dynamic ridesharing model
- Dedicate Route 355 right lane for buses and bikes use bus trolley instead of permanent tracks for the Purple Line
- Set speed for traffic flow instead of limit

Mr. Carlson will circulate Mr. Mertens concerns to the Committee.

Other suggestions to the budget priorities included:

- Improvements on the "micro level" such as updating signage and a having another neighborhood walk-around for the Committee, pointing out safety issues
- Another increase in the gas tax or floating gas tax
- Lobby displays of run times for Metrobuses and trains
- A demo of the Ride On Real Time system
- Impact of the Westbard development on the TMD- December 18th presentation
- Reaching out to the District Dept. of Transportation to have a representative attend TMD meetings. Mr. Carlson said the previous DDOT representative had gone to a new position he will invite her replacement
- Sande Brecher requested input of what the County can do to increase vanpools by using incentives
- A discussion of Geico vanpool program
- Discussion of dynamic ridesharing programs such as Uber need for a pilot program and addressing protest from taxi drivers due to competition

Mr. Carlson asked that members forward their budget priorities revisions/suggestions to him.

Moira Binder, Wells+Associates, announced:

 Almost complete with initial outreach using the employer database-establishing relationships for January e-blast

- Commuter Information Day events (CIDs) –answered inquires from employees and clients about commuting options
- Working with employers to submit Transportation Management Plans (TMPs)
- Following up previous phone calls to employers for spring commuter survey launch-goal to double responses

Item 6-Updates:

- A new Master Plan has been adopted at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) site at White Oak, including forming a new White Oak TMD Advisory Committee
- Larry Hogan, new Maryland governor not committed yet to the Purple Line and Corridor Cities Transitway-need to push support for these projects
- Ride On proposed to take over selected Metro bus routes for cost saving no final decision from Metro Board
- Ride On route changes coming in January previous handout
- New Rockville Judicial Center Building dedication to Montgomery County veterans plaza contains a fountain and eternal flame
- Valet parking issues-no County regulations regulating valet parking
- Fed Ex and UPS trucks blocking lanes at Wisconsin Circle due to narrowing of cut outenforcement needed
- Ms. Gee thanked Barbra Condos for chairing the Committee in her absence

Around the Room

Adjourn Next meeting January 13, 2015